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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

ANDINO ET AL.

APPLICATION NO: 09/524,990

FILED: MARCH 14, 2000

FOR: CONTACT LENS MOLD

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

EXAMINER: DONALD H. HECKENBERG JR.

ART UNIT: 1722

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Sir:

A Notice of Appeal was filed on November 4, 2002, and a brief was due on January 4, 2003. A fourmonth extension is hereby requested pursuant to 37 CFR §1.136(a) for filing the Appeal Brief, and to accept the enclosed Request for Continued Examination (RCE).

Please charge Deposit Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis Corporation in the amount of \$ 1440 for payment of the extension fee. An additional copy of this paper is here enclosed. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 CFR §1.17 which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis Corporation.

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Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation Patent and Trademark Dept. One Health Plaza East Hanover, NJ 07936-1080

Date:

Respectfully submitted,

Robert J. Corman, Jr Attorney for Applicants Reg. No. 41,789

Phone No. (678) 415-4389